

# THE MAUI NEWS

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WILL J. COOPER, : : : EDITOR AND MANAGER

FRIDAY : : : : : FEBRUARY 4, 1916.

## THE DESTINY OF HAWAII.

When the late Alexander Young built the big hotel in Honolulu which bears his name, there were plenty of people who shook their heads, and predicted that the structure would never return adequate interest on the money invested. Today that hotel and a dozen others of smaller size are turning away would be guests. Ten years ago a few of the more far-sighted and energetic business men of Honolulu succeeded in persuading the Honolulu chamber of commerce and the merchants' association to start the promotion committee. That, that undertaking lived during the first several years, was almost solely due to the personal energy and enthusiasm of scarce a dozen men. The rest of the business community was for most part openly skeptical, though good-naturedly tolerant of what it considered a visionary and profitless undertaking. This week the promotion committee is appealing to residents of Honolulu to open their homes to give shelter to visitors to the islands, who cannot be accommodated in the hotels and boarding houses of the city. And a thousand more tourists are expected to arrive during the next three weeks.

Of these thousands of tourists, a few are finding their way to Maui. Yet there are plenty of our own people who see nothing significant in the fact—who cannot read the signs. And yet if the history of Honolulu for the past decade tells anything at all; if the enthusiasm of the few visitors for our climate, our scenic beauties, our game fishing, has any meaning, it means that Maui, in common with all Hawaii, has a destiny that she cannot escape from. And that destiny is to become the playground of the leisure class of the United States. Whether we like the idea or not it is coming. We may retard it, possibly, but we cannot turn it back.

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## THE MAUI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

In electing R. A. Wadsworth president, the Maui chamber of commerce probably acted in the best interests of the organization and of the community. It certainly acted in conformity with the wishes of the retiring president, F. F. Baldwin, who has held the office for several terms. Mr. Wadsworth is one of the most progressive and energetic citizens of the county. He is public spirited and thoroughly alive to the needs of the community, and with the solid backing which he deserves and will doubtless receive, the future of the chamber seems very bright. To Mr. Baldwin belongs a large measure of the credit for the organization and upbuilding of the organization. His enthusiasm for the work, and his belief in it, and his willingness to give in unstinted measure his time and thought to the chamber's affairs, have given to Maui an organization that has been of inestimable benefit to the Island. In asking that he be not re-elected Mr. Baldwin was clearly not seeking to shirk the responsibility, but was acting for what he believed to be the best interests of the body. The Maui Chamber of Commerce is today a live organization, and one of which Maui should be proud.

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It is pleasant to realize that friendly sympathy is not lacking in time of adversity. Immediately following the big storm of three weeks ago which took such heavy toll in lives and property on this island, the Honolulu chamber of commerce and the Hilo Board of trade sent letters of condolence to President Frank Baldwin, of the Maui chamber, together with offers of material assistance. Although Maui did not need to ask for outside assistance, the spirit of the rest of the territory as indicated by these communications, is sincerely appreciated.

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Governor Pinkham has seen fit to throw cold water on the plan to build a road up Haleakala. It might also be recalled that the Governor also deemed that the people of Maui and the legislature were not competent to judge the necessity of a better wharf at Lahaina, for the want of which two lives were sacrificed a short time later. Also that he knew better than the loan fund commission what roads should be built in east Maui, with the result that \$85,000 or more is now tied up in a piece of road that is of little use to anyone.

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The new Kihei wharf wasn't damaged by the storm, and the newly installed range lights are said to be shining brightly, but still the Inter-Island company refuses to send its steamers there. Isn't it about time to find out just why?

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A Hilo paper, in describing the storm damage on Maui, says that the new concrete rest house on Haleakala was demolished. This will certainly be news to Maui people.

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It will require 50 policemen to properly chaperone the carnival ball of all nations, says the committee. Some society function, eh, what?

## Maui's Tax Rate Is Reduced This Year

Oahu and Kauai Get Substantial Boosts Due to Need  
For More Money For Schools.—Maui  
Had School Surplus.

The tax rates for the several counties of the Territory have been figured out and were announced yesterday by the territorial treasurer and those of both Oahu and Kauai have received substantial boosts, while good reductions were made in the rates of Maui and Hawaii. This year the rates are: For Oahu, 1.273; for Maui, 1.332; for Hawaii, 1.42 and for Kauai, 1.415. For 1915 the rates were: Oahu, 1.265; Maui, 1.44; Hawaii, 1.5325, and Kauai, 1.385. The schools are responsible in the main for the increased rates in Oahu and Kauai, while the need of less money for education in Hawaii and Maui is the reason for the reduction of their rates.

The figures on which Maui's rate is based are shown in the following table:

Current Expenses one-half of one per cent on \$29,234,390.....	\$ 146,171.95
Permanent Improvements one-sixth of one per cent.....	48,723.98
Interest and Sinking Fund.....	
Issue.....	
October, 1909.....	\$ 3,562.16
August, 1911.....	7,200.00
September, 1912.....	6,400.00
September, 1914.....	5,603.54
September, 1914.....	2,149.30
	558.06
	\$24,915.00
	\$14,792.60
	39,707.60
New buildings, repairs and maintenance, Janitors' service and supplies, furniture and fixtures, new grounds, Act 132, Laws of 1915....	\$22,575.00
Less unexpended balance.....	11,722.90
School Teachers' Salaries.....	10,852.10
Proportion General School Fund.....	104,854.10
Assessing and Collecting Taxes.....	23,084.61
Tax Books and Blanks.....	14,700.00
	1,399.90
Basis figures for 1916 rate.....	\$ 389,463.94
Basis figures for 1915 rate.....	361,167.66

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